

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the present application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A safety shield system for a needle cannula, said safety shield system comprising:

a clip member having a resilient finger having a free end portion;

a shield having a first portion surrounding said clip member and a second portion having an opening through which the needle cannula may freely pass, said shield being freely movable between a first position, in which said second portion surrounds the needle cannula, and a second position, in which the needle cannula is exposed, said shield having a track defined on an inside surface thereof, said track being sized and shaped to receive said resilient finger, said resilient finger moving in said track as said shield is moved between said first position and said second position, said track having an opening defined through a sidewall of said shield; and

a spring biasing said shield axially to said first position;

said free end portion of said finger permitting one-time movement of said shield from said first position to said second position, and one-time movement of said shield from said second position to said first position, ~~said finger being biased to maintain contact between said finger and said sidewall of said shield;~~

wherein said free end portion of said resilient finger passes freely over said opening defined through said sidewall of said shield as said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position, and wherein said free end portion of said resilient finger passes through said opening when said shield is moved from said second position to said first position, ^{Exposed} said free end portion ~~interfering with said sidewall to~~ being non-depressible by a user so as to prevent subsequent movement of said shield out of said first position thereby locking said shield in said first position.

2. Cancelled.

3. Cancelled.

4. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 1, wherein said track includes an inwardly projecting resilient finger portion adjacent said opening resiliently biasing said free end portion of said resilient finger inwardly and initially guiding said resilient finger over said opening when said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position.

5. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 1, further comprising a removable cup-shaped cap initially received over said shield.

6. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 5, wherein said cup-shaped cap is configured to receive and retain said first portion of said shield after use, thereby providing for safe disposal of said safety shield system and needle cannula.

7. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system as defined in claim 6, wherein said cup-shaped cap includes internal radially projecting ribs which receive and retain

said first portion of said shield preventing movement of said shield when said cap is located on said shield.

8. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 1, wherein said clip member has a tubular body portion and wherein said finger includes a U-shaped portion integrally connected to said tubular body portion of said clip member.

9. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 8, wherein said spring is a spiral spring having a first end received in said U-shaped portion of said finger, and a second end biased against said shield.

10. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 9, wherein said shield is generally cup-shaped having an open end received around said clip member and a generally closed end having a central opening therethrough receiving the needle cannula.

11. (Currently Amended) A safety shield system for use with a pen injector having a generally tubular body portion for receiving a container of fluid having an open end and a closure in the open end, a needle cannula assembly including a hub and needle cannula extending through the hub and having a first end extending into the pen-type injector body, and a second end extending away from the pen-type injector body for injection and transfer of fluid from the container to a patient, said safety shield system comprising:

a clip member having an end portion comprised of a resilient hook-shaped finger having an outwardly inclined end portion;

a shield having a first portion surrounding said clip member and a second portion having an opening through which the needle cannula may freely pass, said shield being freely movable between a first position, in which said second portion surrounds the needle cannula, and a second position, in which the needle cannula is exposed, said shield having a ~~channel-shaped-track~~ defined on an inside surface thereof, said ~~channel-shaped-track~~ being sized and shaped to receive said resilient hook-shaped finger, said resilient hook-shaped finger moving in said ~~channel-shaped-track~~ as said shield is moved between said first position and said second position, said ~~channel-shaped-track~~ having an opening defined through a sidewall of said shield; and

and a spring resiliently biasing said shield axially to said first position; said free end portion of said hook-shaped finger permitting one-time movement of said shield from said first position to said second position, and one-time movement of said shield from said second position to said first position, ~~said hook-shaped finger being biased to maintain contact between said outwardly inclined end portion and said sidewall of said shield;~~

wherein said outwardly inclined end portion of said hook-shaped finger passes freely over said opening defined through said sidewall of said shield as said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position, and wherein said outwardly inclined end portion of said hook-shaped finger passes through said opening when said shield is moved from said second position to said first position, ~~said outwardly inclined end portion interfering with~~

said sidewall being non-depressible by a user so as to prevent subsequent movement of said shield out of said first position thereby locking said shield in said first position.

12. Cancelled.

13. Cancelled.

14. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 11, wherein said channel-shaped track includes an inwardly projecting resilient finger portion adjacent said opening resiliently biasing said outwardly inclined end portion of said hook-shaped finger inwardly and initially guiding said hook-shaped finger over said opening when said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position.

15. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 11, further comprising a removable cup-shaped cap initially received over said shield.

16. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system as defined in claim 15, wherein said cup-shaped cap is configured to receive and retain said first portion of said shield after use, thereby providing for safe disposal of said needle cannula assembly.

17. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 11, wherein said clip member has a tubular body portion and wherein said hook-shaped finger includes a U-shaped portion integrally connected at said tubular body portion of said clip member.

18. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 17, wherein said spring is a spiral spring having a first end received in said U-shaped portion of said hook-shaped finger, and a second end biased against said shield.

19. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 18, wherein said shield is generally cup-shaped having an open end received around said clip member and a generally closed end having a central opening therethrough receiving said needle cannula.

20. (Previously Amended) The safety shield system defined in claim 11, wherein said clip member includes a generally tubular body portion including a plurality of radially extending ribs and said shield includes a plurality of axially extending grooves which receives said ribs, preventing rotation of said shield relative to said clip member and guiding said shield axially between said first and second positions.

21. (Currently Amended) A pen injector and safety shield assembly, comprising:

a pen injector having a generally tubular body portion including an open end;

a needle hub member having a generally tubular body portion received over said pen injector open end;

a needle cannula secured by said needle hub having a first end extending into said tubular body portion of said pen injector and an opposed second end;

a clip member having a resilient finger having a free end portion;

a shield having a first portion surrounding said clip member and a second portion having an opening through which the needle cannula may freely pass, said shield being freely movable between a first position, in which said second portion surrounds said needle

cannula, and a second position, in which said needle cannula is exposed, said shield having a track defined on an inside surface thereof, said track being sized and shaped to receive said resilient finger, said resilient finger moving in said track as said shield is moved between said first position and said second position, said track having an opening defined through a sidewall of said shield; and

a spring biasing said shield axially to said first position;

said free end portion of said finger permitting one-time movement of said shield from said first position to said second position, and one-time movement of said shield from said second position to said first position, ~~said finger being biased to maintain contact between said finger and said sidewall of said shield;~~

wherein said free end portion of said resilient finger passes freely over said opening defined through said sidewall of said shield as said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position, and wherein said free end portion of said resilient finger passes through said opening when said shield is moved from said second position to said first position, ~~said free end portion interfering with said sidewall being non-depressible by a user so as to~~ prevent subsequent movement of said shield out of said first position thereby locking said shield in said first position.

22. Cancelled.

23. Cancelled

24. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 21, wherein said track includes an inwardly projecting resilient finger portion adjacent said

opening resiliently biasing said free end portion of said resilient finger inwardly and initially guiding said resilient finger over said opening when said shield is first moved from said first position to said second position.

25. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 21, further comprising a removable cup-shaped cap initially received over said shield.

26. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 25, wherein said cup-shaped cap is configured to receive and retain said first portion of said shield after use, thereby providing for safe disposal of said safety shield system and needle cannula.

27. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system as defined in claim 26, wherein said cup-shaped cap includes internal radially projecting ribs which receive and retain said first portion of said shield preventing movement of said shield when said cap is located on said shield.

28. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 21, wherein said clip member has a tubular body portion and wherein said finger includes a U-shaped portion integrally connected to said tubular body portion of said clip member.

29. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 28, wherein said spring is a spiral spring having a first end received in said U-shaped portion of said finger, and a second end biased against said shield.

30. (Previously Presented) The pen injector and safety shield system defined in claim 9, wherein said shield is generally cup-shaped having an open end received around said

clip member and a generally closed end having a central opening therethrough receiving the needle cannula.

31. (Previously Presented) The safety shield system defined in claim 1, wherein said finger is hook-shaped and includes an outwardly inclined end portion that interferes with said sidewall to prevent subsequent movement of said shield out of said first position thereby locking said shield in said first position.

32. (Previously Presented) The pen needle and safety shield system as defined in claim 15, wherein said cup-shaped cap includes internal radially projecting ribs which receive and retain said first portion of said shield preventing movement of said shield when said cap is located on said shield.

33. (New) A single-use safety shield system for a needle, said safety shield system comprising:

a clip having a resilient finger that is non-depressible by a user;
a shield surrounding said clip and having a first opening through which said needle may pass and a second opening defined in a sidewall thereof, said shield being movable from a first position, in which said shield surrounds said needle and said resilient finger is visible through said second opening and contained within said shield, and a second position, in which said needle extends through said first opening;

said finger freely passing over said second opening as said shield is moved from said first position to said second position, and said finger extending through said second opening when said shield is moved from said second position to said first position and returned

to said first position to thereby lock said shield in said first position so as to prevent re-use of said single-use safety shield system.

34. (New) A single-use safety shield system as recited by claim 33, further comprising a spring for biasing said shield toward said first position.

35. (New) A single-use safety shield system as recited by claim 34, wherein said resilient finger comprises a visual indicator depicting a pre-use state of said safety shield system, and a post-use state of said safety shield system.

36. (New) A single-use safety shield system as recited by claim 33, wherein said shield further comprises a first portion surrounding said clip and a second portion, said first and second openings being defined in said second portion.
